

MONO COUNTY LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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Monday, December 11, 2006, 9:00 a.m.
Town / County Conference Room
Mammoth Lakes, California

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners Present

Skip Harvey, Chair
Hap Hazard, Vice Chair
Vikki Bauer, Supervisor
John Eastman, Councilman
Byng Hunt, Supervisor
Wendy Sugimura, Councilman

Caltrans

Brad Mettam
Ryan Dermody
Mark Reistetter

Staff Present

Scott Burns, Director
Allen Berrey, County Counsel
Gerry LeFrancois, Mono County Planner
Bill Manning, Transit Town of Mammoth Lakes
Lynetta Fuerst, Secretary LTC
Scott Campbell, Transit Town of Mammoth Lakes
Ray Jarvis, Public Works Director TML
Peter Bernasconi, Civil Engineer TML

Others

Monicka Watterson, Inyo Mono Transit
Jill Ellis, Inyo Mono Transit
Bill Reid, Mono County Supervisor
Elizabeth Tenney, Public Citizen

Agenda items may not have been taken in order.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Harvey at 9:09 a.m. followed by the pledge.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Elizabeth Tenney commended Caltrans on how great the McGee and Sonora maintenance stations looked, and hoping the Lee Vining, Conway and Crestview would also be painted. Secondly she addressed the Commission regarding the Crestview rest area and its winter closure. From the County park rest area in Walker to the Black Rock rest area it's 140 miles. We are a tourist supported County and yet we offer no facilities to the traveler? This stretch of road is one

of the toughest to drive where a driver would need a place to rest especially in the winter. Does the LTC have a way to find funding for the Crestview Rest Area to be open year round? This topic was also discussed at the last CPT meeting.

2. CLOSED SESSION

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9:(One Case)

The meeting was adjourned to **Closed Session** at 9:12 a.m. Called back to order at 9:25 a.m. Mr. Allen Berrey stated nothing to report at this time.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES- October 16, 2006

Commissioner Eastman moved to approve minutes from October 16, 2006. Seconded by Commissioner Hunt. Commissioner Sugimura abstained. Passed 5/0. Those in favor: Bauer, Eastman, Harvey Hazard, and Hunt.

4. ADMINISTRATION

a. Consider/adopt Resolution 2005-04C apportioning *actual* Local Transportation Funds FY 2005-06

Commissioner Hunt motioned to approve Resolution 2005-04C. Seconded by Commissioner Hazard. Passed 6/0. Those in favor: Bauer, Eastman, Harvey, Hazard, Hunt and Sugimura.

b. Consider / adopt Resolution 2005-04D allocating *actual* Local Transportation Funds FY 2005-06

Commissioner Hunt moved to approve Resolution 2005-04C followed by a second from Commissioner Hazard. Passed 6/0. Those in favor: Bauer, Eastman, Harvey, Hazard, Hunt and Sugimura.

c. Discuss / adopt Commissioner's Handbook

Mr. Burns explained the updated handbook was brief and concise, designed on State laws to eliminate frequent updating. There was no discussion or questions from the Commissioners. Moved to adopt by Commissioner Hunt and seconded by Commissioner Sugimura. Passed 6/0. those in favor: Bauer, Eastman, Harvey, Hazard, Hunt and Sugimura.

d. Consider/ adopt Resolution 2006-11 approving the use of \$ 200,000 reserve Local Transportation Funds for the Town of Mammoth Lakes transit program

Mr. Campbell explained the Town had received An FTA grant for \$ 800,000 and would like to use reserve LTF of \$ 200,000 as the required match for this grant. Commissioner Bauer asked if this was the El Foro Latino grant and was advised yes. Moved to adopt by Commissioner Eastman and seconded by Commissioner Hazard. Passed 6/0. Those in favor: Bauer, Eastman, Harvey, Hazard, Hunt and Sugimura.

5. TRANSIT

a. Inyo Mono Transit

1. Consider approving FTA Section 5311 Regional Program of Projects (POP) Grant 25- Regional Apportionment of operating assistance FY 2007

Ms. Watterson explained 5311 apportionment money is rural transportation dollars that comes from Federal funds and is used for public transportation operating funds for Mono County. It has been increasing recently due to

the reauthorization bill. Commissioner Hazard moved to adopt the Regional Program of Projects Grant 25. Seconded by Commissioner Hunt. Passed 6/0. Those in favor: Bauer, Eastman, Harvey, Hazard, Hunt and Sugimura.

2. Update on Lee Vining / June Lake to Mammoth Lakes' pilot route

Ms. Ellis from IMT explained the new route from Lee Vining & June Lake to Mammoth Lakes. The route is designed for commuters, shoppers, and medical visits. Monday through Friday the route will run three times a day. On Saturday and Sunday there will be two round trips. The first day of service will be Monday, December 18, 2006. Commissioner Eastman thanked everyone for all their hard work to get this pilot program started. Supervisor Reid asked if Mono City would be included. Ms. Ellis explained the Mono City residents were interested in using the service if the bus didn't make multiple stops. Commissioner Hazard thanked everyone on behalf of the late Supervisor Cecil for bringing this project forward.

b. Yosemite Area Regional Transportation Systems (YARTS) update

Commissioner Bauer attended a meeting on December 8th with Fresno COG and interested parties from Madera County to have the first conversations regarding YARTS and a more expanded regional use. She has talked with Caltrans District 10 and looking for planning money. After Fresno and Madera Counties then look at Tuolumne and Stanislaus counties.

c. Eastern Sierra Transit Authority (ESTA) update

ESTA has been formed. First board meeting was in November and a second meeting in December. The consultant will be working for the next four to six months laying the administrative groundwork for the organization before ESTA actually starts the operating process. With the loan of funds from the Town of Mammoth Lakes, ESTA has sent out an RFP for a second consultant to work on specific projects from the board. ESTA plans to have the additional consultant by the first of the year. The target date to have ESTA operating is April 1, 2007.

6. CALTRANS

a. Update on activities in Mono County including quarterly report

Mark Reistetter provided a handout for the Commissioners and explained the current projects and the status of each. Mr. Mettam added on the Pt. Ranch curve project Caltrans is looking for a payment sensor system that will advise drivers that the payment is icy and a system that has been proven to work. Commissioner Hunt asked what the timeframe was for the High Point project since it had been on the project list for such a long time. Mr. Reistetter advised PAE&D in 9-2007, but no funds were programmed as yet. Commissioner Hazard stated the White Mountain intersection in Chalfant was still of great concern to residents in the area and wondered if safety funds could be used to create a safer turn out. Mr. Mettam would look into funding possibilities. The Mono Lake guard rail has been completed. The Gas-X study should begin summer of 2007. Mr. Mettam went on to explain the ramifications of the passage of the Bond measure. He noted the funds that would be available and the timeframes that the Commission would have to meet including some hard decisions in the near future. He expected unprecedented building for transportation. Commissioner Hazard expressed concern regarding keeping Crestview open year round. He noted it was a health and safety issue. Many travelers have used the rest stop as shelter in the winter when mechanical problems arise creating a public safety need. Mr. Mettam suggested the Commission

draft and send a support letter listing the issues which would enlist a formal response.

b. Update on Bond passage

Mr. Mettam stated \$19.9 billion will be available through 2012. \$ 4.5 billion is in the (CMIA) Corridor Mobility Improvement Account, but has the most constraints. The Olancho – Cartago project is slated at \$ 107 million, with \$ 50 M coming from the CMIA. Now will be our best opportunity to program the Olancho-Cartago project. Proposals under the CMIA are due to headquarters by 1-16-2007 and the CTC will adopt projects in March.

7. STATE / REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

a. Consider / adopt Minute Order 2006-12 authorizing the Executive Director to co-nominate and send a letter of support for the Olancho-Cartago Expressway Project under the Corridor Mobility Improvement Account (CMIA)

Mr. LeFrancois explained this letter of support is a follow-up to the Bond measure. A motion from Commissioner Eastman to approve and seconded by Commissioner Hazard. Passed 6/0. Those in favor were: Bauer, Eastman, Harvey, Hazard, Hunt, and Sugimura.

b. Consider / adopt Minute Order 2006-13 approving letter of support for the Freeman Gulch project

If Kern County nominates this project and is approved Mono County would be released of our MOU and it would free up \$ 11M to use elsewhere. Commissioner Hunt motioned to approve the letter of support with Commissioner Bauer's second. Passed 6/0. Those in favor: Bauer, Eastman, Harvey, Hazard, Hunt and Sugimura.

c. Quarterly update on projects in the Town of Mammoth Lakes

Mr. Bernasconi provided a handout for the Commission and verbally updated the Town's projects.

d. Quarterly update on projects in Mono County

Mr. LeFrancois explained the Lundy Lake Road (2000 STIP) should begin construction this spring. June Lake Streetscape should finish planting this spring (TEA). Lee Vining Streetscape close to getting an encroachment permit. Funds have been allocated to begin environmental for the Owens George Road, Owens River Road and the Bridgeport Street rehab.

e. Update on 2006 STIP augmentation process

This is State only funds from the Bond measure, usually less strings attached. A handout of the draft fund estimates was provided. The 2006 STIP Augmentation should have @ \$ 15.6M. 50 – 60% traditionally is programmed for the State Highway system. This would leave \$ 4M for both Town and County. The Commission will have to schedule a late March meeting to vote on the programs, since it must be submitted by 4-2-2007 to the CTC.

8. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

9. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING – January 8, 2007

10. ADJOURN- The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m. by Chair Harvey.

